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Local, A3

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New fund set up for crisis response

$250K already pledged to support area nonprofits as they assist those in need

By ALEXANDRA NEWMAN
HP Staff Writer

ST. JOSEPH — A new fund has been set up to help area nonprofits that are working to support the basic human needs of residents during the coronavirus emergency.

The Southwest Michigan Cares Fund has already received $250,000 in pledges, according to a news release from the Berrien Community Foundation (BCF) and United Way of Southwest Michigan (UWSWM).

The initial focus area of the fund is immediate response for nonprofits providing emergent basic human needs. The fund will then consider grants addressing the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 outbreak.

"It is our top priority to take care of the members of our community and to help find the best way for resources to meet needs," said BCF President Lisa Cripps-Downey in the news release. "During this unprecedented time in our history, it is crucial for us to work together to ensure that families are supported and organizations remain solvent and able to continue to serve."

The Berrien Community Foundation and United Way of Southwest Michigan are working together to administer the fund, and have already each pledged $50,000 to it.

Other $50,000 donors include the Hanson Family Foundation, Spectrum Health Lakeland and Whirlpool Corp. Other major funders at this time include the American Electric Power Foundation, the Frederick S. Upton Foundation, Meijer and individual donors.

"We do not know the full scope of how COVID-19 will impact families in our community," said UWSWM President Anna Murphy in the release. "The generosity of these donors and the willingness of community funders to work together is crucial to the overall health and well-being of our area."

According to the release, the BCF and UWSWM have been meeting remotely with nonprofits to assess the rapidly changing situation and quickly make funding available to address immediate needs.

A website, www.southwestmichigancares.org, has been set up to provide information and resources, along with accept donations.

Donations can be directed to Berrien County, Cass County, Van Buren County – or all of Southwest Michigan.

In addition, people can text to give by texting SWMICARES to 41444, or send checks to: Berrien Community Foundation, Southwest Michigan Cares Fund, 2900 S. State St., Suite 2E, St. Joseph, MI 49085.

Nonprofits looking to apply for funding can do so at the website. Questions about the application or funding process can be directed to Amanda Drew at Amanda.drew@uwsm.org, or Susan Matheny at susanmatheny@berrien community.org.

Individuals and families

See **FUND**, page A10

Trump implores Congress to move on virus rescue package

By ANDREW TAYLOR and LISA MASCARO
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Senate leaders raced to unravel last-minute snags Wednesday and win passage of an unparalleled $2 trillion economic rescue package steering aid to businesses, workers and health care systems engulfed by the coronavirus pandemic.

The measure is the largest economic relief bill in U.S. history, and both parties' leaders were desperate for quick passage as the virus took lives and jobs by the hour. The Senate stayed in session in anticipation of still passing the bill after days of delays.

Insistently optimistic, President Donald Trump said of the greatest public-health emergency in anyone's lifetime, "I don't think its going to end up being such a rough patch" and anticipated the economy soaring "like a rocket ship" when it's over. Yet he implored Congress late in the day to move on critical aid without further delay.

The package is intended as relief for an economy spiraling into recession or worse and a nation facing a grim toll from an infection that's killed nearly 20,000 people worldwide. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, asked how long the aid would keep the economy afloat, said: "We've anticipated three months. Hopefully, we won't need this for three months."

Underscoring the effort's sheer magnitude, the bill finances a response with a price tag that equals half the size of the entire $4 trillion annual federal budget.

"A fight has arrived on our shores," said Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell. "We did not seek it, we did not want it, but now we're going to win it."

"Big help, quick help, is on the way," said Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer.

But the drive by leaders to speed the bill through the Senate was slowed as four conservative Republican senators demanded changes, saying the legislation as written "incentivizes layoffs" and should be altered to ensure employees don't earn more money if they're laid off than if they're working.

Complicating the standoff,

See **RESCUE**, page A10

Photos by Don Campbell / HP staff

Kennel supervisor Ashley Herr checks on Lunar, one of several cats available for adoption at the Berrien County Animal Control shelter in Benton Township.

Sheltering in place at the shelter

How area animal rescue organizations are faring

By JULIE SWIDWA
HP Staff Writer

BENTON TOWNSHIP — With Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's shelter-in-place order keeping many people at home, animal rescue organizations are having to temporarily adjust the way they do business.

Berrien County Animal Control Director Tiffany Peterson said pet-owners should be reassured that there is no evidence that COVID-19 can be transmitted to or from animals, and people should keep their pets if possible.

"We understand that some senior citizens or unemployed people might not have enough money, and although our resources are low, we can probably come up with something to help," she said. Peterson said people seeking help will be strictly screened so no one takes advantage of resources.

The shelter is closed to the public, but shelter employees are trying to find a way to facilitate adoptions online to limit the number of people going into the shelter. She said there has not been an influx of people surrendering their pets.

Colette peeks out of her cage Wednesday at the Berrien County Animal Control shelter in Benton Township.

"The hard part is everybody is limited on resources and donations are low," Peterson said. "People have time to devote to a new pet right now, but perhaps don't have the resources to take care of one."

A voicemail recording at the Humane Society of Southwestern Michigan says that to protect the public and shelter staff, the shelter is closed until further notice, and that adoptions are not being facilitated at this time. But, the recording says, essential staff members are still reporting to work to take care of the animals that are there. And donation bins are located outside the building for donations.

Rebecca Cooper, vice president of Animal Aid of Southwest Michigan, said the organization has had to change the way pet adoptions are completed. She said adoptions are actually up, since people are

See **SHELTER**, page A10

Making a plan for your pet, should you get COVID-19

Berrien County Animal Control and other animal rescue organizations are urging people to have an emergency plan in place for their pets in case the owner contracts COVID-19.

The plan should include designating an emergency caregiver by making prior arraignments with friends or family to care for pets in case of hospitalization. Or, call local veterinarian offices and ask if they can provide boarding if you become sick.

Build a basic survival kit to keep your pet happy and comfortable in case you become ill.

The kit should include at least a three-day supply of food and water; medicines and medical records; important documents such as adoption papers or vaccination records; a first-aid kit that contains bandages, scissors, antibiotic ointment, flea and tick prevention, latex gloves, alcohol and saline solution; collar or harness with ID tag and leash; a safe and

See **PLAN**, page A10

The Newspaper for Southwest Michigan

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Index

Classifieds	A7	Features	A4	Opinion	A8	Television	A4
Comics	A5	Local	A3	Puzzles	A4	Weather	A10
Entertainment	A6	Obituaries	A9	Sports	A6		

Tomorrow's Weather
High 50 Low 44

6 50645 49085 0

Another big jump in Mich. virus numbers

State now at 2,295 cases; 43 deaths

By JULIE MACK
mlive.com

The number of people diagnosed with the coronavirus COVID-19 in Michigan took another big jump, reaching 2,295 on Wednesday, March 25, up from 1,791 the day before.

That includes more than 1,100 cases in Wayne County.

The number of Michigan coronavirus cases has more than doubled in four days, although health officials say that's partly due to an significant increase in testing.

Forty-three people have died, according to the state's daily update on coronavirus numbers. That's up from 24 on Tuesday.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services reported 507 new cases on its daily update, setting another record for a one-day increase.

The numbers have spiked since last week, when the state began to significantly increase the number of people tested for the coronavirus.

"Originally, you only had the state Bureau of Laboratories doing the testing," said Linda Vail, Ingham County's health officer. Last week, some hospitals and private laboratories began performing tests, and those results are now showing up, "and a lot of these test results are now getting dumped into the system," she said.

Forty-eight of Michigan's 83 counties are home to a resident who contracted coronavirus.

About 89 percent of the COVID-19 cases – 2,046 of 2,295 – are in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties.

The disproportionate number of cases in metro Detroit is a result of several factors, including the area's large population, more aggressive testing in those counties and community spread of coronavirus, said Lynn Sutfin, spokeswoman for the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. About 39 percent of Michigan residents live in Wayne, Oakland or Macomb counties.

There are 705 patients who are Detroit residents; 417 who live elsewhere in Wayne County; 543 who live in Oakland County and 281 in Macomb County.

Of the 43 patients who died, 12 were residents of Detroit, nine in Wayne County outside of Detroit, 10 in Oakland County, seven in Macomb, three in Washtenaw and one each in Kent and Livingston counties.

Whitmer declared a state of emergency on March 10 after the first cases were identified. She has since closed schools, bars, restaurants and other establishments to prevent COVID-19 from spreading further.

On Monday, March 23, Whitmer issued a "stay-at-home" order, requiring Michigan residents to stay at home except for essential business.

There have been nearly 55,000 cases of the coronavirus and 400 deaths in the United States, according to the Center for Disease Control.

LOTTERIES

Wednesday drawings

Michigan
Classic Lotto 47
02-03-15-35-45-47
Poker Lotto
JC-QC-2D-4D-9S
Midday Daily 3
0-0-3
Midday Daily 4
0-2-3-2
Daily 3
1-5-4
Daily 4
2-3-8-6
Fantasy 5
04-09-13-21-25
Keno
01-04-10-18-30-36-37-38-39-46-49-52-55-58-59-62-66-67-68-69-74-75
Mega Millions jackpot
$107 million
Powerball jackpot
$150 million

Tuesday drawings

Indiana
Cash 5
15-29-34-39-43
Estimated jackpot
$75,000
Cash4Life
06-15-18-25-49, Cash Ball: 4
Quick Draw Midday
08-14-15-19-24-28-31-32-36-47-49-51-58-61-62-66-73-74-76-79, BE: 51
Daily Three-Midday
2-8-2, SB: 9
Daily Three-Evening
5-0-0, SB: 7
Daily Four-Midday
2-2-5-6, SB: 9
Daily Four-Evening
9-3-3-6, SB: 7
Quick Draw Evening
02-03-04-11-13-19-20-23-24-30-33-42-44-51-52-55-64-72-76-78, BE: 30

Illinois
LuckyDay Lotto Midday
01-29-30-44-45
Pick Three-Midday
7-6-9, Fireball: 2
Pick Three-Evening
9-5-6, Fireball: 7
Pick Four-Midday
7-6-3-7, Fireball: 0
Pick Four-Evening
3-4-3-6, Fireball: 0
Lucky Day Lotto
13-20-21-32-40

– The Associated Press

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Q & A

Coronavirus: What experts are saying

By KRISTEN JORDAN SHAMUS
Detroit Free Press

A brand new form of an old virus is wreaking havoc in America and around the world.

It's called the novel coronavirus because it's a new strain of the disease. There is no known treatment and there's no cure, but there's a whole lot of speculation about it.

The Free Press went to work to answer some reader questions based on what the experts know now about COVID-19.

If you have more questions, send them our way by email to kshamus@freepress.com. We'll try to update this file periodically with as many answers as we can.

Q: I've heard that one quirky early symptom of coronavirus is the loss of smell or in some cases, taste. Is that true?

A: It might be.

The American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery issued a warning Sunday about patients who tested positive for the new coronavirus with the only symptom being a lost or altered sense of smell or taste.

"Anecdotal evidence is rapidly accumulating from sites around the world that anosmia and dysgeusia are significant symptoms associated with the COVID-19 pandemic," the statement said.

It recommends that people with these symptoms – even without other respiratory diseases like allergies or a cold – should alert their doctor and seriously consider self-quarantine and testing.

"Since these people do not show other symptoms, they won't know to self-quarantine, which could spread the virus," says Rachel Kaye, an assistant professor of otolaryngology at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, who is beginning to track these occurrences in the United States.

Kaye explained the connection between these senses and COVID-19, saying that viruses often cause changes in the ability to smell or taste because they can cause inflammation and swelling of the lining of the nasal cavity. In addition, viruses can cause neurologic damage of smell receptors and neurons.

Although it's possible COVID-19 could be causing those symptoms, Kaye said there's no definitive proof just yet.

Q: President Donald Trump has said researchers are funding promising drugs that can treat COVID-19. Is that true?

A: No medicine has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration as treatment for COVID-19.

Clinical trials are under way for use of hydroxychloroquine and chloroquine, which are used to treat malaria and certain autoimmune disorders, to see whether they are safe and effective for people who are having respiratory distress because of the novel coronavirus. But the CDC reports that it is too early to say whether they actually work. Anecdotal evidence from use of these drugs in other countries, sometimes in combination with the antibiotic azithromycin, suggests they might have some benefit in COVID-19 patients.

In addition, the CDC is investigating whether there is a benefit to using an antiviral IV-medication called Remdesivir in COVID-19 patients. Clinical trials are underway.

Q: When will there be a vaccine for COVID-19?

Scientists from around the world are now racing to develop a vaccine for COVID-19. The first trial began last week in Seattle, according to USA Today, but it's likely to take at least a year to 18 months to bring a vaccine to market for widespread use.

It will be at least a year to 18 months before any vaccine is ready for large-scale use, according to most estimates. Before being deployed, vaccines must go through multiple rounds of testing to make sure they are safe, effective and don't have unintended consequences.

Q: With the governor's stay home, stay safe order, and the threat of the virus spreading, is it safe to go outside to walk my dog, hike on a trail or go jogging?

A: If you do not have symptoms, by all means, take a walk outside, hike your favorite trail or go for a jog. It's good for you. Just remember to stay away from other people, practicing what's called social distancing, or maintaining at least 6 feet of space between you and other people.

Also, avoid touching/sitting on playground equipment, park benches and other outdoor equipment that might be vectors for the disease. If you see someone you know, do not hug, shake hands or touch friends. Keep that 6-foot distance.

Q: I like to order take out. Is it safe to have food delivered to my house?

A: The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that coronaviruses generally spread from person-to-person through respiratory droplets.

For now, at least there is no evidence to support transmission of COVID-19 through food. However, it may be possible that a person can get the virus by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or eyes.

To prevent that, before you prepare or eat food, wash your hands with soap and water for 20 seconds. And throughout the day, wash your hands after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing, or going to the bathroom.

Q: I'm single and live alone but I'm worried about my mental health. If I've already been with a friend lately, can she be a quarantine buddy?

A: The CDC says if you're sure your quarantine buddy has been taking similar precautions about staying home, using proper hand-washing and social distancing measures, it's probably OK.

But be sure to continue using those same strategies even when your friend comes for a visit.

The World Health Organization also recommends these tips to give your mental health a boost through the outbreak:

- Go outside.
- Call or video chat with friends or family members to stay connected throughout the day.
- Maintain a healthy diet, sleep and exercise schedule.
- Stay informed to help you accurately determine your risk so that you can take reasonable precautions. Find credible sources of information, such as the WHO, the CDC or Michigan.gov/coronavirus.

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2020 SOUTHWEST REGION HERBICIDE PROGRAM

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SCHEDULED DATES OF APPLICATION:
Applications will take place between April 2, 2020 and December 7, 2020.

HERBICIDES/LOCATIONS:
Non-Selective Applications: (guardrail, pavement/shoulder cracks and edges, barrier walls, concrete bridge slopes, invasive plants) ANY INDIVIDUAL OR COMBINATIONS OF THE HERBICIDES LISTED BELOW:
Roundup Pro Concentrate (Glyphosate), **Plateau** (Imazapic), **Milestone** (Aminopyralid), **Escort XP** (Metsulfuron Methyl), **Arsenal Powerline** (Imazapyr), **Rodeo** (Glyphosate), **Polaris** (Isopropylamine salt of Imazapyr), **Esplanade 200SC** (Indaziflam), **Method 240SL** (Aminocyclopyrachlor), **Telar XP** (Chlorsulfuron), **Esplanade EZ** (Indaziflam, Diquat, Glyphosate).

Selective Applications: (broadleaf weeds in turf areas, brush control, plant growth regulator, invasive plants) ANY INDIVIDUAL OR COMBINATIONS OF THE HERBICIDES LISTED BELOW:
Weedestroy AM-40 (2, 4-Dichlorophenoxyacetic Acid), **Milestone** (Aminopyralid), **Escort XP** (Metsulfuron Methyl), **Garlon 3A** (Triclopyr), **Garlon 4Ultra** (Triclopyr-2-butoxyethylester), **Vista XRT** (Fluroxypyr), **Plateau** (Imazapic), **E-2** (2, 4-Dichlorophenoxyacetic Acid, Fluroxpyr, Dicamba), **Method 240SL** (Aminocyclopyrachlor), **Telar XP** (Chlorsulfuron), **Vastlan** (Triclopyr choline, acetic acid, choline salt), **Stalker** (Isopropylamine Salt of Imazapyr), **Krenite S** (Ammonium salt of fosamine).

Adjuvants: (drift control, water conditioning, surfactants) **41-A** (Polyacrylamide and Polysaccharidepolymers), **Nu-Film-IR** (Poly-1-p-Menthene), **Improve** (Nonionic), **Condition** (Ammonium sulfate), **Sunset MSO** (Methylated seed oil blend and emulsifiers), **Cygnet Plus** (Limonene, Methylated Vegetable Oil, Alkyl Hydroxypoly Oxyethlene), **Elite Velocity** (Surfactant, proprietary combination of oils and emulsifiers), **Elite Platinum** (Surfactant, humectants, free fatty acids).

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CONTACT:
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hp LOCAL & STATE

Making masks for heroes

Local designer throws herself into mask-making enterprise

By TONY WITTKOWSKI
HP Staff Writer

Photos provided

Keila Sanchez made dozens of the masks over the weekend.

BERRIEN SPRINGS — Keila Sanchez wanted to put her talents to good use.

The self-taught fashion designer, who makes hand-crafted scarves and other accessories for a living, found a way to do so by helping hospital workers remain safe in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Last Saturday, Sanchez spent 24 hours cutting and sewing material together to make 60 cotton face masks intended as a donation to Spectrum Health Lakeland doctors and nurses.

"I just decided that I was going to keep working until I couldn't anymore," Sanchez said. "God has given me this talent to sew and help the community. I saw the need for this."

It all began on March 19, when a friend of Sanchez messaged her about possibly sewing together a few face masks.

Her friend, who is a physician, had heard some grumblings in the medical community about a shortage of masks. Then people started tagging Sanchez in several social media posts concerning homemade masks.

By Friday, Sanchez dove head first into the project by seeking out the proper material and doing her homework on making masks that would be acceptable under the standards set by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"I decided to do a little research because they weren't accepting every face mask," Sanchez said. "There was a video I watched and played around with the pattern."

The face masks are considered reusable, made from premium cotton material. She used different types of elastic for the bands that could be washed and dried along with the rest of the face mask.

Sanchez also got creative on the look of the face masks.

Some have inspiring messages on them, while most have patterns with everything from bright colors to animal prints to camouflage.

"I've been using tie dye a lot," she said. "The 'Wonder Woman' one has been a favorite for the nurses, who I would say are the superheros on the front lines."

The masks take an average of 25 minutes to make, from cutting the material to putting labels on.

Sanchez said it took an estimated 16 hours for just the sewing. She started cutting on Friday night and spent all of Saturday fashioning them from within her Berrien Springs home studio.

On Sunday, she wrapped them up and delivered them to area health care sites.

Wearable art to save a heart

In 2014, Sanchez founded KozySaila as a source of light during a time of family uncertainty.

She started sewing from home to cover her daughter Saila's medical expenses. Saila was born with congenital heart disease, which led to five open-heart surgeries at a young age.

Thankfully, these life-saving surgeries were a success and Saila is alive and will turn 6 years old next month. That led to the slogan of Sanchez's business: "Wearable Art to Save a Heart."

Sanchez's business features a collection of accessories, designed with a mix of fabrics including velvet, leather and cashmere.

In 2019, she showcased her first designer collection for Paris Fashion Week and continues to grow her business from Southwest Michigan.

Keila Sanchez wears one of the masks she made over the weekend to donate to for hospital use.

Now her phone continues to ring, but for another reason.

Sanchez said everyone she knows wants a face mask as the coronavirus continues to spread throughout Michigan and the nation. She has not added them to her business's website, as it is not a normal item she makes.

"The response has been ongoing. It doesn't stop," she said. "I did not expect this to take off the way it did. Some people have been asking to buy some. I'm going to take it one face mask at a time."

Contact: twittkowski@TheHP.com, 932-0358, Twitter: @Tony Wittkowski

Police probe shooting outside Benton Twp. party store

1 man shot in leg

By JULIE SWIDWA
HP Staff Writer

BENTON TOWNSHIP — Benton Township police are investigating a shooting they say happened about 8 p.m. Tuesday at the Quik Way Party Store at 105 S. Fair Ave.

Detective Lt. Michael DenDooven said police were called to the area of Buss Avenue and South Fair Avenue on a report of a person armed with a handgun and shooting. When police arrived, they were unable to locate an armed person or anyone who had been shot.

But meanwhile, police were advised that a gunshot victim had arrived at Lakeland Medical Center, St. Joseph, with a wound to the upper left leg. The 22-year-old Benton Harbor resident reported having been shot at the Fair Avenue location.

The victim told police he had exited the Quik Way Party Store, saw a group of people arguing and heard gunshots. He got into his vehicle and while driving away, heard bullets strike his vehicle and realized he'd been shot in the leg. He drove himself to Lakeland where he was treated for a non life-threatening gunshot wound, DenDooven said.

Police at the Fair Avenue location then found evidence of a shooting in the party store parking lot. Evidence was collected by Benton Township Police evidence technicians, who were assisted by the Benton Harbor Department of Public Safety.

Anyone with information is asked to call the Benton Township Police Department Detective Bureau at 925-1135, or Crime Stoppers at 574-288-STOP.

Contact: jswidwa@TheHP.com, 932-0359, twitter@hpswidwa

Number of Berrien County COVID-19 cases now at 10

Van Buren reports first 2 cases

By HP STAFF

The number of positive cases of COVID-19 in Berrien County rose to 10 Wednesday, while Van Buren County reported its first two cases.

There are still no confirmed cases in Cass County as of Wednesday evening.

The Van Buren/Cass District Health Department (VBCDHD) reported in a news release that its first case was a woman in her 60s who is in stable condition and has been self-isolating at home.

VBCDHD is continuing to investigate the circumstances around the cases and working to identify individuals who may have come into close contact with the individuals.

Larry Wile, medical director at the VBCDHD, said in the release that the county is anticipating more positive cases.

"We urge all residents to please take all precautions to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19," he said.

The VBCDHD will provide updates on its website, www.vbcassdhd.org/covid-19.

The BCHD reported that it will now provide its daily updates in the afternoon. Those updates can be found on its website, www.bchd mi.org, on social media, and at its hotline, 1-800-815-5485.

Hospitals release list of what donated supplies they will accept, drop off locations

By HP STAFF

BENTON HARBOR — Area hospitals have announced how and what the community may donate to them.

Spectrum Health Lakeland will accept donations at 2550 Meadowbrook Road, Benton Harbor, while Bronson Healthcare is accepting donations at Bronson LakeView Outpatient Center, 451 Health Parkway, Paw Paw, and Bronson Family Medicine, 930 Blue Star Highway, South Haven.

Lakeland's location is open 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday to Friday. Bronson's hours for drop-offs are 1-4 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Lakeland will accept: N95 masks, isolation masks (adult/child), masks with face shield/visor, face shields, goggles/safety glasses, bouffant caps, extended extra protection gloves (all sizes), isolation gowns, bleach wipes, swabs (flexible mini-tip), pocket-sized sanitizer and thermometers (digital, disposable, temporal).

Bronson is asking for the following: disposable face masks, N95 masks, face shields, safety goggles, disposable gowns, disposable gloves, especially non-latex, disposable surgical caps, disposable foot covers, bleach or antimicrobial wipes, hand sanitizer and bleach.

At this time, Spectrum Health Lakeland is not accepting donations of handsewn masks, other medical equipment, medications or blankets.

Bronson will accept sewn face masks for staff in certain areas of their facilities to help protect staff and conserve the supply of PEP, as well as specialized medical equipment including: PAPRs (powered air-purifying respirators) and PAPR hoods, nasal testing swabs, and viral testing kits.

Donors coming to the Benton Harbor location are being asked to call 927-5361 when they arrive for further instructions, to reduce the risk of exposure.

Don Campbell / HP staff

Spectrum Health Lakeland has set up a drop-off donation site at 2550 Meadowbrook Rd., in Benton Harbor, for items such as N95 masks, isolation masks, face shields, extended protection gloves, isolation gowns, bleach wipes, swabs, pocket-sized sanitizer and thermometers.

Traveling to drop-off sites to donate medical supplies does not violate Michigan's statewide stay-at-home order, which allows for an exception to the order for providing necessities to "individuals who need assistance as a result of this emergency."

Those with a large donation requiring special arrangements or a question about a donation to Lakeland, can email safetycamp@lakelandhealth.org.

Community members who would like to make a monetary donation to support Spectrum Heath Lakeland's COVID-19 response effort may do so by visiting: give.spectrumhealth.org/COVID-Lakeland.

IN BRIEF

State still approving recreational marijuana licenses

Several facilities in Southwest Michigan have been approved to sell recreational marijuana in the past week despite the state government focused on the coronavirus emergency.

Zen Leaf, along East Front Street in Buchanan, and Green Stem Provisioning, along South 11th Street in Niles, have had their marijuana retailer licenses approved through March 2021.

The Buchanan location has also been approved for home delivery.

In addition, Med+Leaf in Hartford has been pre-approved by the state for recreational sales. The city just needs to finalize its ordinance.

Conservation district reschedules fundraiser

BERRIEN SPRINGS — The Berrien Conservation District has rescheduled the dates for ordering and picking up items from its annual tree and shrub seedling fundraiser.

Orders are now being accepted until May 1. Orders may be placed at www.berriencd.org or order forms can be printed from the website and mailed to Berrien Conservation District, 3334 Edgewood Road, Berrien Springs, MI 49103.

A variety of bare root seedlings of evergreens, deciduous trees, shrubs, and fruit trees are being offered, along with strawberry and raspberry plants. Rain barrels and composters are also available. Quantities are limited.

Pickup times are noon to 8 p.m. May 15 and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. May 16 at the Berrien County Youth Fairgrounds, 9122 US Hwy. 31, Berrien Springs.

Some Lakeland hours change due to outbreak

ST. JOSEPH — Starting today, the hours of operation for Spectrum Health Lakeland outpatient imaging and laboratory testing services will change. They will now be Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Lakeland Center for Outpatient Services, Lakeland Hospital Watervliet, Lakeland Hospital Niles, and Lakeland Medical Center in St. Joseph.

The Center for Outpatient Services will now be closed on Saturdays. The outpatient laboratory at both Lakeland Hospital Niles and Lakeland Hospital Watervliet will also be closed on Saturdays. For emergent weekend service for laboratory or X-rays, patients should visit Lakeland Hospital Niles or Lakeland Hospital Watervliet and check in through the emergency department admitting desk.

Additionally, walk-in visits for laboratory and X-rays are no longer available. All routine X-ray and laboratory services at Lakeland locations will now need to be scheduled through central scheduling by calling 269-556-2810

PRIME TIME TV

THURSDAY EVENING MAR. 26

	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30
ABC (7) (13) (41) (57)	Wheel of Fortune	Station 19 (N)		Grey's Anatomy "Love of My Life" (N)		:01 A Million Little Things	
CBS (2) (3) (22)	Ent. Tonight	Young Sheldon	:31 Young Sheldon	:01 Mom	Neighbor-hood	FBI: Most Wanted "Invisible"	
NBC (5) (8) (16)	NBC5 News	Super-store (N)	Brooklyn Nine-Nine	Indebted (N)	Indebted (N)	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit (N)	
FOX (17) (22) (28) (32)	Modern Family	Last Man Standing	Out-matched	Deputy Informants start turning up dead.		Fox 17 News at 10:00PM (N)	
PBS (34)	Radar-Mich-igan	Poldark on Master-piece		Father Brown		Antiques Roadshow (Part 1 of 3)	
CW (25)	Big Bang Theory	Katy Keene (N)		Legacies Hope tries to save Josie. (N)		News	Seinfeld
MNT (39)	Family Feud	Chicago P.D. "Justice"		Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Law & Order: Criminal Intent	
WCIU (26)	Mike & Molly	Katy Keene (N)		Legacies Hope tries to save Josie. (N)		2 Broke Girls	2 Broke Girls
WHME (46)	:00 Heart-land	Heartland "A Horse With No Rider"		Highway to Heaven		The List (N)	Celebrity Page (N)
WGN (9)	News	black-ish	black-ish	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	WGN News at Nine (N) (L)	
A&E	:00 The First 48	The First 48 "Life Interrupted; Lucifer"		Live PD: Wanted (N)		60 Days In "Girls Next Door" (N)	
AMC	Rambo Part II	★ Gone in 60 Seconds ('00) Nicolas Cage. A retired thief must steal 50 cars to save his brother.					Under Siege
Animal	Last	The Last Alaskans: Arctic Refuge (N)				Yukon Men: On Edge	
BET	6:00 ★★★ Set It Off ('96)			★★ All About the Benjamins ('02)			
Big Ten	BTN in 60	BTN Basketball in 60		BTN Basketball in 60		BTN Basketball in 60	
Bravo	:00 Below Deck	Below Deck "Loose Lips Sink Ships"		Top Chef "It's Like They Never Left"		Top Chef (N)	
Cartoon	Apple	Home	Burgers	Burgers	Rick	American	American
Cinemax	Cowboys & Aliens	★★★ In Bruges ('08, Comedy-Drama) Colin Farrell, Brendan Gleeson.				9:50 ★★★ First Man ('18)	
CMT	Last Man	Gold Girls	Gold Girls	Gold Girls	Gold Girls	Gold Girls	Gold Girls
CNBC	Shark	Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Shark Tank	
CNN	OutFront	Anderson Cooper		Cuomo Prime Time		CNN Tonight	
Comedy	Office	Office	Office	Office	Office	Office	Office
Discovery	Rescue	Homestead Rescue (N)		Homestead Rescue		Building Off the Grid (N)	
Disney	Bunk'd	Sydney	Coop	Gabby	Just Roll	Bunk'd	Raven
DIY	Insane	Insane Pools		Insane Pools		Maine Cabin Masters	
E!	Kardas	The Kardashians			The Kardashians		Nightly
ESPN	:00 O.J.: Made in America			O.J.: Made in America (Part 5 of 5)			
ESPN2	The Draft	Home Run Derby (N)				Home Run Derby (N)	
ESPNC	6:00 NBA	College Football From Nov. 18, 1995.				College Football	
Food	Restaur	Food Truck Race		Food Truck Race		Vegas Chef	
Fox News	The Story	Tucker Carlson		Hannity (N)		The Ingraham Angle	
Fox Sports	Bowling	MLB Baseball: Tigers at Blue Jays				Tigers Lv.	Focused
Freefrm	6:00 ★★ Twilight: Extended Edition ('08)			The Bold Type (N)		Motherland: Fort Salem	
FX	★★ Jurassic World ('15) Chris Pratt. Man-made dinosaurs go on a rampage at an island resort.					Better Things	Breeders "No Dad"
Golf	PGA Tour	LPGA Tour Golf				PGA Tour Golf	
Hallmark	Flip That Romance	A Brush With Love ('19, Romance) Arielle Kebbel, Nick Bateman.				Golden Girls	Golden Girls
HBO	6:10 ★★★ Gangs of New York ('02) Leonardo DiCaprio.			★ Kill Chain: The Cyber War on America's Elections ('20)		:35 Gamer	
History	Swamp	Swamp People		Swamp People (N)		Swamp People: Ser	
HGTV	Hunters	Flip	Flip	Flipping	Flipping	Hunt Intl	Hunters
Learning	Dr. Pim	Dr. Pimple Popper		Save My Skin (N)		Untold Stories of ER	
Lifetime	King of Queens	Married at First Sight Vulnerability. (N)	The five couples embrace			King of Queens	King of Queens
MSNBC	Decision	All In With		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word	
MTV	Jersey	Jersey Shore		Busch	Busch	Ridic.	Ridic.
NBCSCH	Bulls	To Be Announced					Postgame
NFL	NFL Total	A Football Life		A Football Life		A Football Life	
Nick	Sponge.	Dylan	Sponge.	★ Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs 2			
NGEO	Wild	Borderforce USA		Borderforce USA		:03 Borderforce USA	
Oxygen	:00 Killer Couples	Killer Couples A couple is gunned down.		In Ice Cold Blood "Murder in Paradise"		Snapped "Lorraine Hunter"	
Parmt	★★ Sweet Home Alabama			Wife Swap (N)		Sweet Home	
Showtime	6:15 Unlocked	Homeland Saul finds an unlikely ally.		★★★ Boyz N the Hood ('91, Drama) Larry Fishburne, Ice Cube.			
Starz	:23 ★ Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance ('12, Action)			:01 ★ Land of the Lost ('09) Will Ferrell, Anna Friel.		Leather-heads	
STZENC	:15 ★★★ Searching ('18) John Cho, Debra Messing.			★★★ Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure ('89)		Young Frank	
SyFy	:45 ★★ The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift ('06, Action) Lucas Black, Zachery Ty Bryan.					★★★ John Wick: Chapter 2 ('17)	
TBS	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Hot One-Game
TCM	Dr. Strange-love	★★★ Malcolm X ('92) Denzel Washington, Angela Bassett. (P). The civil-rights leader rises from criminal to crusader.					
TMC	Accommo-dat	★★ Remember Me ('10, Romance) Robert Pattinson, Emile de Ravin.				★★★ Blue Valen-tine ('10)	
TNT	:00 Bones	★★ Jack Reacher: Never Go Back				Magnificent Seven	
Travel	Ghost	Ghost Adventures		Ghost Adventures		The Dead Files (N)	
TV Land	Andy G.	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Two Men	Two Men
USA	Law & Or-der: SVU	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit		The Sinner Jamie seeks vengeance.	
VH1	★★ Bad Boys II ('03, Action) Martin Lawrence, Will Smith.						
WGN-A	Married ... With	Married ... With	Married ... With	Married ... With	Married ... With	Married ... With	Married ... With

Decades-old loan remains unpaid even after threats

Jeanne Phillips
Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I am an 83-year-old mother of four. I have been living with my second husband now for 21 years. Nineteen years ago, my husband loaned one of my daughters and her husband a large sum of money so they could buy a house and pay off bills and judgments. All the necessary paperwork for the loan was signed at the time of the closing with a lawyer present, and it was agreed they would pay us back a certain amount every month.

After a few years of mostly regular repayments, the payments dwindled, although they continued to buy expensive electronics and other items. Several years have passed now, and a few checks and cash payments have arrived, but only after much begging.

Our lawyer sent them a letter a few years ago telling them to pay up or we would sue them. It resulted in their not seeing or talking to us for a couple of years. We REALLY need the money now. Maybe she's hoping we will die. What do you suggest we do at this point? Her brother and sisters don't want to get involved. – Loving, Giving Mom

DEAR MOM: I am truly sorry. But because your other children refuse to become involved in convincing your deadbeat daughter and her husband to pay what they owe you, you have no other choice but to contact the lawyer who drafted the loan agreement and instruct him to follow through.

DEAR ABBY: My husband retired four years ago. At first he seemed to enjoy not having to go to work. Then he got bored and needed something to do. For some reason, he bought an old Corvette to restore. I was supportive, until I found out it's an expensive hobby. Finding and buying all the replacement parts costs money.

He has been working on that car for 3 ½ years now. As soon as he gets it ready to drive, something else breaks. Meanwhile, he has bought four more old Corvettes "to work on." Our backyard looks like a junkyard.

We haven't had a vacation trip since he retired, not even a weekend to the mountains. He argues that we can't afford it, but he spends thousands on those old cars. It has become an obsession for him, and it's "driving" ME crazy. Any suggestions? – Corvette Widow In The South

DEAR WIDOW: Healthy couples discuss large purchases before making them. What your husband is doing is destructive to your relationship. It almost seems as though he is using his hobby as a way of avoiding spending time with you. My suggestion is that you and your husband find the money to consult a marriage counselor because what's going on is unfair to you. And if you need a vacation, consider taking one by yourself or with a friend.

DEAR ABBY: I will be turning 50 soon. How do I explain to my husband and parents that I just want to spend it alone? Is there something wrong with me for feeling this way? – Birthday Wish In Iowa

DEAR BIRTHDAY WISH: People react to their birthdays, especially milestone birthdays, differently. Some are elated, while others feel depressed. Not everyone wants a lot of "hoopla." If you prefer spending your 50th birthday quietly, your wish should be respected, and you should not have to go into a long explanation about why.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

How do I learn to accept my mom's crazy behavior?

Carolyn Hax

HI, CAROLYN: Common mental health parlance often talks about "accepting" x about y person. What does that look like? How do you make your brain not expect or wish for certain things, or not be frustrated when people – my mom for example – do completely insane things, like let her windows *rot out*, and then be upset when I won't let my kids spend the night there? How do I accept that? I don't mean that snarkily – I mean, what would acceptance of maddening, sad, upsetting things like that actually look like in practice? I've already altered my expectations, but it still gets under my skin to see her live like that, to feel her judge me and get upset that I won't stay there, to stare at me so hard that I have to ask what is wrong. – Anonymous

ANONYMOUS: I'm sorry your mom isn't well.

Here is the mechanism for acceptance: Do you get angry when night falls or winter comes?

You get angry over your mom's behavior, though, because a part of you still thinks she could be different. If you regard her behaviors as inevitable and immutable, like the seasons, then they lose their power to upset you. Then, they just are.

That is acceptance. It's hard, but your mind is powerful enough to do this.

It's also not an on/off switch. It's a process of retraining your thoughts: Whenever you find yourself wishing your mother were X, you mindfully bring yourself back to knowing she's Y. This is who she is, this is how she acts.

You can also decide on certain useful responses whenever you're in these situations, to create a positive association. Like a swear jar, but life size.

DEAR CAROLYN: My son is planning to propose to his girlfriend and has asked for a family heirloom to use as the engagement ring. It's not a traditional choice – no diamond, not very valuable – but it has some emotional significance to HIM. The girlfriend has made a few heavy-handed comments about hoping for something more traditional. They may have whizzed by my son's head – he can be obtuse about things like this, which I'm sure the girlfriend will have lots of fun with over the years. I'm not sure what to do. I told my son the ring is not necessarily his girlfriend's taste, and she has actually commented about wanting something different. He has so far told me (nicely) to butt out, but the ring technically belongs to me and I could just say no if I wanted to. Would that be appropriate? – Woman Who Hated Her Own Engagement Ring

WOMAN WHO HATED HER OWN ENGAGEMENT RING: Sure! Keep the ring. Tell him you're still using it, and the girlfriend doesn't like it. This battlefield is already bloody with minced words, so don't add more.

I agree "the girlfriend will have lots of fun" with your son's assumption that his wanting something is enough for her to want it, too. I'm not over the moon, either, with her tactic of dropping hints like so many cinder blocks. If she wants something, then she should say so or buy it herself.

The whole (hetero) engagement ring "tradition" doesn't stand up to any serious scrutiny anyway – unless the couple is so "traditional" that equality isn't their thing.

Email Carolyn at tellme@washpost.com, follow her on Facebook at www.facebook.com/carolyn.hax or chat with her online at noon each Friday at www.washingtonpost.com.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Put on ice
6 Speck of land in the ocean
11 Imposed taxes
13 Diamond-shaped knitting pattern
14 Halloween hue
15 Array
16 It may be spliced
17 Minor falsehood
19 Have supper
20 Postponed game
24 Curved path
27 Sz. option
28 Dallas cagers
31 Thawed
33 Prepare an egg
35 Ache
36 Sneezer's need
37 Applied henna
38 Cosmonaut space lab
39 Ben & Jerry rival
40 Heirs' legacies
43 Jalopy
46 Even so
47 Profound
51 Depleted (2 wds.)
54 Hemmed and hawed
56 Previously
57 Pitched, as a ship
58 Atelier item
59 Neglected, as a garden

DOWN
1 Folk dance shoe
2 This spot
3 Physiolo-gist — Pavlov
4 Cruise ship
5 Chair part
6 Keogh relative
7 Pfc. boss
8 Ancient harp
9 He directed Marlon
10 College book
12 Stood up to
13 Lectern
18 Wabash loc.
21 Improves upon
22 Out caller
23 Art colony town in New Mexico
24 Poet — Lowell
25 Sax mouth-piece
26 Modeling medium
29 Bud holder
30 Wind-driven spray
32 Oak or sycamore
34 Psst!
36 Laugh self-consciously
38 Ginnie —
41 Category
42 Marshy hollow
43 3D shape
44 Between ports
45 NBA officials
48 Slothful
49 Watermel-on leftover
50 Whirlpool
52 Forest mom
53 Web addr.
55 Swear solemnly

Answer to Previous Puzzle

P	A	S	C	A	L		A	S	S	E	S	S		
A	R	R	O	Y	O		H	A	L	T	E	R		
R	I	O	T	E	R		C	R	U	E	T			
			S	S	E		H	I	M					
B	A	S		L	A	O		P	A	I	R			
U	P	C		Z	E	N	O		E	M	M	A		
S	P	A	Z	I	G		A	D	E	P	T			
H	E	R	T	Z		L	O	S		B	A	T		
E	A	C	H		T	E	M	P		A	L	E		
S	L	E	W		I	R	E			S	A	D		
		A	M	T		L	A	P						
A	M	O	R	A	L		C	R	E	C	T	S		
M	A	N	T	L	E		T	E	A	P	O	T		
P	O	S	S	E	S		S	A	L	U	T	E		

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JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

NOYME

DLAAS

AFUIRN

KACYRN

I feel better having this.
The break-ins have us a little worried.
This will notify the police if trigg-ered.
THERE'D BEEN SOME BURGLARIES IN THEIR NEIGHBORHOOD, WHICH WAS ---

Get the free JUMBLE app for iPhone and iPad

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

3/26

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: FOAMY SEIZE NOTION GAMBIT
Answer: The wedding cake looked delicious and would be eaten — "INGEST" A MOMENT

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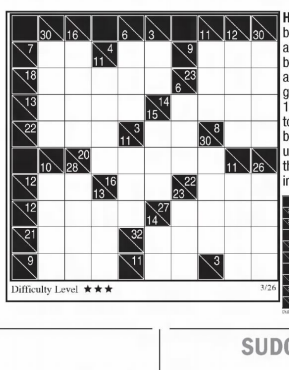
KAKURO



How to play: Numbers above the slash are across clues; numbers below the slash are down clues. The goal is to enter digits 1-9 in the white cells to add up to the number clues. You cannot use any digit more than once when adding up to a clue.

Difficulty Level ★★★ 3/26

BRIDGE

Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote, "The louder he talked of his honor, the faster we counted our spoons."

For a bridge player, the more often he plays his honor cards, the more winning tricks he can count.

When I am teaching inexperienced players about signaling on defense, the first class is usually about playing spot cards – high-low to encourage and low-high to discourage. But the next week I encourage playing honor cards whenever possible. Even the sleepiest of partners will notice an honor card appearing unexpectedly on the table.

There are several reasons for putting up an honor card when you could have played a spot card. This three-no-trump deal features one of the rarest. What was the key honor play after West led the spade queen to South's king?

Declarer had eight top tricks: two spades, three hearts and three diamonds. He had to establish a club trick. He was in danger only if West had five spades and a high club after both of South's spade honors had been removed.

To try to make it hard for the opponents if the club honors were split, declarer played a heart to the king and called for a club.

Luckily for the defenders, East knew that one time to play second hand high is when a defender has one card left in partner's long suit, and declarer still has a stopper in that suit. Here, East played his club king.

When East held the trick, he returned his second spade, establishing his partner's suit while West still had the club ace as an entry.

North 03-26-20
♠ 7 6 4 3
♥ A K 5
♦ K Q 8
♣ 6 5 2

West
♠ Q J 10 9 8
♥ 9 8 2
♦ 10 6 3
♣ A 8

East
♠ 5 2
♥ J 10 6 3
♦ J 9 7 4
♣ K 10 9

South
♠ A K
♥ Q 7 4
♦ A 5 2
♣ Q J 7 4 3

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Both

South	West	North	East
1NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Opening lead: ♠ Q

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★☆☆

			4	2			1	6
	8	2	9				7	
	9			5				
5		4	2					
				4				
					5	4		8
				6			9	
	6				4	7	8	
2	1			3	7			

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How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

4	9	7	8	3	2	1	6	5
5	1	6	7	9	4	8	2	3
3	8	2	1	5	6	7	4	9
8	5	4	3	2	7	9	1	6
2	6	3	5	1	9	4	8	7
1	7	9	6	4	8	3	5	2
9	2	1	4	7	5	6	3	8
6	3	5	9	8	1	2	7	4
7	4	8	2	6	3	5	9	1

BEETLE BAILEY

I HAVE THE PERFECT UNIFORM FOR YOUR COMBAT EXERCISES
RIPS, MUD STAINS, BLOOD SPOTS...
YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'VE BEEN ACTIVELY PARTICIPATING!
3-26

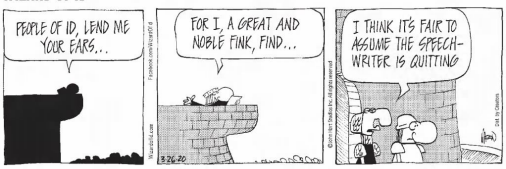
BLONDIE

MY NEW BOSS IS WORSE THAN YOUR BOSS! HE MICROMANAGES ME LIKE CRAZY!
I'M SURE MY BOSS IS WORSE.
DOES YOUR BOSS STICK A GPS TRACKER ON YOUR BRIEFCASE TO MONITOR WHERE YOU ARE?
WHOA!
YA KNOW, BOSS...YOU'RE NOT SO BAD AFTER ALL.
?

HI & LOIS

BC

WIZARD OF ID


PEOPLE OF ID, LEND ME YOUR EARS...
FOR I, A GREAT AND NOBLE FINK, FIND...
I THINK IT'S FAIR TO ASSUME THE SPEECH-WRITER IS QUITTING
3-26-20

DILBERT

I USED TO BE A MORON, BUT THEN I BINGE-WATCHED SEVENTEEN TED TALKS ON YOUTUBE.
NOW I'M THE SMARTEST PERSON IN THE ROOM.
SHOULD WE DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS?
I DON'T KNOW. I'VE ONLY WATCHED SIX TED TALKS.

GARFIELD

FORT KNOX

LET ME REPRESENT YOU IN THE CASE AGAINST MONPO.
YOU'RE NOT EVEN A LAWYER.
IT DOESN'T MATTER, SINCE I KNOW THE LAW.
AND HOW DID YOU LEARN ABOUT IT?
BY BINGE-WATCHING "JUDGE JUDY."
QUIT
JOB
SUE
TRIAL

PICKLES

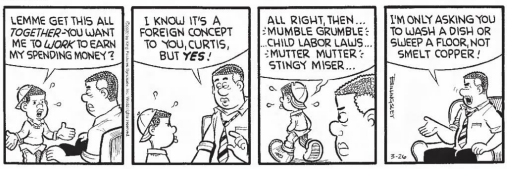
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH THE VACUUM, EARL?
HEY, I'M A GROWN MAN IN MY OWN HOUSE. CAN'T I USE MY OWN VACUUM WITHOUT BEING INTERROGATED?
BY ALL MEANS. GO RIGHT AHEAD.
THANK YOU!
OKAY. WHERE'S THE TURNY-ON THINGY?
CONTINUED...

FAMILY CIRCUS

DENNIS THE MENACE

BABY BLUES

CURTIS


LEMME GET THIS ALL TOGETHER-YOU WANT ME TO LOOK TO EARN MY SPENDING MONEY?
I KNOW IT'S A FOREIGN CONCEPT TO YOU, CURTIS, BUT YES!
ALL RIGHT, THEN... MUMBLE GRUMBLE: CHILD LABOR LAWS... MUTTER MUTTER: STINGY MISER...
I'M ONLY ASKING YOU TO WASH A DISH OR SWEEP A FLOOR, NOT SMELT COPPER!
3-26

ZITS

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

MUTTS

SALLY FORTH

"ASKING EVERYONE QUESTIONS"? I ASKED ONE QUESTION!
WHY DO YOU ALWAYS NEED TO KNOW EVERYONE ELSE'S BUSINESS, HIL? WHY DO YOU ALWAYS HAVE TO BE IN CHARGE OF EVERYTHING?
I'M NOT! I JUST KNOW WE HAVE THIS TEN-YEAR PLAN.
TEN YEARS! DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH CAN CHANGE IN TEN YEARS?! DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH CAN CHANGE IN A DAY?!
KEEFE
WHERE WHERE IS THIS COMING FROM?
I GOTTA GO. ESPECIALLY SINCE JENNY AND NONA ALREADY SNUCK OUT WHILE WE WERE ARGUING.
3-26

GhostLight Theatre to host 'Virtual Cabaret'

Performances planned for each Friday night during stay-at-home order

By ALEXANDRA NEWMAN
HP Staff Writer

MOW

BUONOPANE

SCHROCK

KUNKEL

LeMACHE

PACHECO ROSE

BENTON HARBOR — Many people in the artistic community deemed unessential during the coronavirus pandemic have been looking for ways to give others something to look forward to.

That includes Paul Mow and the team at The GhostLight Theatre.

"As performers, we've had to postpone and cancel everything. I just wanted to sing," Mow said. "I felt it in my soul because that's one thing I can do for people."

So in his classic "Paul Mow & Friends" style, he assembled six of his artistic friends from around the country to be part of a performance each Friday night called "A Virtual Cabaret."

This Friday, it will include performances from Mow, Todd Buonopane, Elizabeth Pacheco Rose, Lauren Kunkel, Danny LeMache, Madeline Schrock and Dan Maxon.

Mow said he's asked them to perform something that can sooth us, make us think, that's upbeat or is happy.

"In the artist's mind, when we perform, we are giving, but we are also needy and want to be responded to in applause, but the audience has dried up," Mow said. "I'm overwhelmed with gratitude that these people are willing to put their time into this for no monetary benefit."

Mow said Buonopane, a performer out of New York City who has been in shows like "30 Rock" and "Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt," has been doing monologues from his bathtub over the last few weeks on Instagram. He had to cancel a tour he was on due to COVID-19.

Rose, who stared in "Bridges of Madison County" last summer at The GhostLight, will perform a few pieces from her home in North Carolina. Mow said she was set to perform in "The King and I" but it was canceled, so she might sing a song from the show.

Kunkel in Miami, and Schrock in New York City, both originally from Southwest Michigan, are each finishing up music degrees right now.

Mow said Maxon will join from his home here in Michigan, and LeMache will contribute from New Jersey.

The vibe of the concert will be very laid back, according to Mow.

"I'm not going to dress up in a tuxedo like I usually might," he said. "I'm going to make it approachable and make the audience feel like they're chilling in my house with me."

Mow said the performances will be put on YouTube at 7:30 p.m. each Friday, and he's already got seven of his friends to perform next week.

Mow said The GhostLight is still trying to salvage its 2020 season, which is set to begin May 7.

"But we're all in this together, no matter if we're artists or audience," he said. "We're just trying to emulate that feeling of a performance event before we can all get back on our feet."

Contact: anewman@TheHP.com, 932-0357, Twitter: @HPANewman

If You Go

What: "A Virtual Cabaret (across the USA!)"

When: 7:30 p.m.

Where: YouTube (link at www.ghostlightbh.com)

How much: Free

More info: www.facebook.com/events/1620781111393713

Kathy Willens / AP

Golfers gather on a tee beyond a pond at Forest Park Golf Course, Friday, March 20, 2020, in New York. Even as the pandemic has shuttered restaurants, bars and beaches, many golf courses around the country have managed to stay open with all sorts of precautions in place to promote social distancing.

Fore! Golfers play on, for now, with precautions in place

By NOAH TRISTER
Associated Press

YPSILANTI — Washtenaw Golf Club, one of the oldest courses in Michigan, typically only has to worry about the weather in March.

Now there is a far more serious issue to contemplate: the new coronavirus.

"This is the one thing we didn't think of," said Dave Kendall, a PGA professional and operating partner at Washtenaw, which dates to 1899. "You know, as far as making plans. But we'll fight through it together."

Even as the pandemic has shuttered restaurants, bars and beaches, many golf courses around the country have managed to stay open with all sorts of precautions in place to promote social distancing, from sanitizing carts to removing rakes from bunkers.

The hope is that golf can provide a safe outlet for the stir crazy, some fresh air and exercise, perhaps even a dose of normalcy.

But like so much else, the industry is in a day-to-day state of uncertainty.

Consider Poppy Hills on the Monterey Peninsula, once part of the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am rotation on the PGA Tour. It announced March 16 it was closing until April 8 after California Gov. Gavin Newsom issued a shelter-in-place order for six Bay Area counties. Then, it reopened on Saturday with social distancing guidelines. One day later, it was temporarily closed again.

Others remain open.

"It's definitely a needed distraction, especially with nothing else on at home," said Mark Laliberte, who was playing at Highland Creek Golf Club in Charlotte, North Carolina. "I'm a father of three daughters, and my wife and my daughters and I love to watch sports. It's crazy that there is nothing on."

It's not hard for golfers to keep their distance on the fairway, but greens and especially tee boxes can become more crowded – and golf is popular among age groups most vulnerable to the virus. Can it really be safe?

"I do think that golf is a relatively easy sport to socially distance while playing," said Dr. Amesh Adalja, a senior scholar at the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security. His work focuses on emerging infectious disease, pandemic preparedness and biosecurity.

I do think that golf is a relatively easy sport to socially distance while playing. I do think that social distancing is important but I also think that some activities can be modified to limit exposure."

DR. AMESH ADALJA
Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security

"I do think that social distancing is important but I also think that some activities can be modified to limit exposure," he said in an email.

Golfers can leave flagsticks in the holes, untouched. Grounds crews at some courses have installed the cups upside down, so the ball doesn't fall in the hole and people don't have to reach inside.

Pinehurst Resort, including the famous No. 2 course, put a 2-inch diameter piece of PVC in the hole so the ball comes to rest level with the turf – easy to retrieve. The USGA last week said when cups are adjusted, a temporary measure allows for scores to be posted for handicap purposes even if players don't actually make the putts.

"Honestly, and I'm biased as you know, but if you think of anything else you could do right now, golf is social distancing day to day," said Troy Andrew, executive director of the Washington Golf Association. "None of the general public is good enough to hit it within six feet of each other."

Carts can be limited to one player at a time, and players can be allowed to walk the course without one. Clubhouses and golf shops can have restricted access or be closed entirely. Players can prepay for their rounds online.

Wes Stenscher, 34, of Bethesda, Maryland, played early in the morning at Bowie Golf Club last week with a business partner.

"Kind of most surprisingly is most of the people that were out there were older people, which are at the highest risk right now, and I was surprised to see so many older people out there," he said.

For most people, the new coronavirus causes mild or moderate symptoms, such as fever and cough that clear up in two to three weeks. For some, especially older adults and people with existing health problems, it can cause more severe illness, including pneumonia and death.

Charlene Richardson of Pasadena, California, played the nine-hole Eaton Canyon course in nearby Altadena last week. Ball washers were covered in plastic to prevent use and she didn't pull the flagstick on any hole.

"When I had to reach in the hole to get my ball, I was like, 'Hmm,'" she said.

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti later announced the closure of public golf courses.

This week, Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer issued a statewide stay-at-home order, with exemptions for outdoor exercise.

"Whatever the orders are, we'll certainly abide by them and try and help," Kendall said. "Maybe if it's helpful to not have this tease people into going out when they would have stayed home otherwise, then maybe we need to do that."

It was not clear if Whitmer's order applies to golf courses.

"We recognize the difficult task governors have in keeping the economy going and keeping citizens safe," Greg McLaughlin, head of the World Golf Foundation, said recently. "The distinction we're trying to make is the unique nature of the golf course. The clubhouse, restaurant, that's one operation. The fields of play, which typically represent outdoor, open space, should be treated differently."

Bruce Mohler, the course manager at Jacksonville Beach Golf Club in Florida, was in his office last week composing an email to city parks officials on why the course should remain open. The course was sanitizing carts, and cups were inserted upside-down.

"We had 273 rounds on Wednesday. For 18 holes, that's 4,914 potential touches we're eliminating by not having to get your ball out of the cup," he said.

Mohler had about 10 decorative square cement pieces to build a walkway to a window next to the cashier, so players could pay without having to enter the clubhouse. The public course, recently renovated, was booked all week.

Sean Poggi, who works in commercial real estate, was in a cart with Dino Delkic, waiting to tee off.

"What brings us out?" he said. "Just trying to do something."

MLB ballparks will remain eerily empty on opening day

By STEPHEN HAWKINS
AP Baseball Writer

ARLINGTON, Texas — There will be no hot dogs on the grill, no beer on tap, no vendors in the stands selling peanuts and Cracker Jack.

The shiny new stadium deep in the heart of Texas will still be waiting for its first Rangers game. Instead of warming up for his debut with the New York Yankees after a record $324 million, nine-year contract, Gerrit Cole is playing catch with his wife at home.

With the start of the Major League Baseball season indefinitely on hold because of the novel coronavirus pandemic, ballparks will be empty Thursday on what was supposed to be opening day.

"You're used to seeing people run all over the place. We have over 200 people (who work) at the park," said Roger Bossard, the groundskeeper in his 54th year with the Chicago White Sox. "Certainly, it's eerie when no one's around. You walk around the hallways or underneath the stands there, and there's nobody there – but understandably."

From Baltimore to Miami in the east, San Diego to Seattle in the west – and 11 other cities that would have hosted season openers Thursday – there will be no games, or at the remaining 15 MLB stadiums, for at least a couple of more months.

By then, when the weather will be warmer, the Rangers will be able to stay out of the heat by closing the retractable roof at their $1 billion-plus stadium, the only new major league ballpark opening this season.

After the postponement of a Chris Stapleton concert that was to be the inaugural event at Globe Life Park on March 14, only three days after an open house that went on as scheduled, the Rangers were supposed to play an exhibition game there this week. Their home opener was set for next Tuesday after a season-opening series in Seattle.

"The stadium was 100 percent ready to go," said Casey Rapp, GM of the new Rangers stadium for Delaware North Sportservice, which also oversees concessions for 10 other MLB ballparks. "It's the little things that we were trying to make perfect."

While there was plenty of time to finish construction of Globe Life Park, Rapp and his group haven't yet been able to serve people during a full-scale event at the stadium.

Concessionaires start planning months in advance of the openers. That means a lot of products, such as hot dogs, bottled beverages and frozen foods, had already been delivered to many ballparks before the season was put on hold.

"It's definitely different … it's kind of unheard of (that) all the major sports inside the United States would be closed at the exact same time," said Ken Gaber, vice president of operational excellence for Delaware North Sportservice. "Personally, it's difficult. I think everybody feels the exact same way."

Delaware North has donated to local charities more than 41,000 pounds of food, including perishable items already sent to MLB stadiums it operates, and concessions from its other venues, including some NBA and NHL arenas suddenly shut down in the middle of those seasons. There were also several spring training venues at the peak of their schedules.

The World Series champion Washington Nationals have reduced staff at Nationals Park, where a facilities group is still maintaining the ballpark and putting on the finishing touches for the season.

"Prior to every baseball season, you're always working very aggressively to get ready for opening day. That's a fixed date and time and you just have to be ready," said Frank Gambino, Washington's senior vice president of ballpark operations. "We had been working very diligently, and continue to work diligently, to try and get as close as we can to ready for whenever opening day eventually comes."

Gambino said the Nationals were able to defer many of the concession deliveries and stocking of the stadium while monitoring the COVID-19 situation.

There have been no reports of any MLB players testing positive for the novel coronavirus. Two minor leaguers in the Yankees system did, and the Red Sox closed down their entire spring training complex in Fort Myers, Florida, this week after saying that one of their minor league players had tested positive.

For most people, the new coronavirus causes mild or moderate symptoms, such as fever and cough that clear up in two to three weeks.

The Baltimore Orioles were scheduled to open at home Thursday against the Yankees, likely with a clean-shaven Cole on the mound for the visitors. Camden Yards will be ready whenever the season finally starts, and the Orioles hope to maintain the enthusiasm that was whipped up for the team throughout a now-extended offseason.

"The bright spot in this sort of cloudy day is that our fans will be craving baseball," said Jennifer Grondahl, the Orioles vice president of community development and communications. "If we can put together a season and the entertainment that we have planned and add to that, I feel like we'll be able to continue that momentum."

The Herald-Palladium

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HOROSCOPE

By EUGENIA LAST

THURSDAY, MARCH 26

Channel your energy wisely. Concentrate on what you can do for others and for yourself. Less talk and more action will bring about positive change. Discipline and hard work will pave the way to success. Let your experience help you open doors that have not been accessible in the past.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) An objective attitude will help you avoid trouble. Listen and assess situations before you share your opinion. Approach new topics with curiosity and the desire to learn. Adopt a healthy lifestyle.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Others will judge you on your performance as both a leader and a team player. Be prepared to take full responsibility and to fine-tune the ultimate product.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Don't lose sight of your goal, or you will end up procrastinating instead of accomplishing. An unexpected question will leave you in a vulnerable position. Be honest and concise with your response.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) If you use your imagination on the job, you will impress someone overseeing what you do. Take an authoritative stance if you want to receive more responsibility. Personal gain is apparent.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Attend events to connect with people in higher positions. The more contacts you make, the easier it will be to get ahead. Being in the right place at the right time will lead to success.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Reevaluate what you want. Being precise when working toward personal or professional goal will help you implement a successful plan. A romantic encounter will spice up your life.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Take a mental health day, or learn something that will help you find a more enjoyable job. Keep in mind that you can be moderate and still have a good time.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Let your heart rule your head, and follow your intuition. A note-worthy change at home will also bring you closer to someone you love. A healthier lifestyle is encouraged.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Don't let stubbornness ruin an excellent opportunity. Be prepared to take advantage of an offer. An adjustment will improve your life and give you the freedom to try something new.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Refuse to let your emotions get the better of you. Look at what you can do and follow through with your plans. Personal growth will attract the attention of someone extraordinary.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Stick to a budget and avoid making hasty decisions. Joint money matters will lead to a stressful situation. A responsible attitude will stop others from taking advantage of you.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Do what comes naturally. Communication and honesty will be necessary if you want to be successful in love, life and finance. A clear conscience will ease stress.

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Dislike of Trump based on facts, not hate

Melinda Stibal
Opinion Maker

In the midst of the conflicts that have divided this nation forever there is one constant that deserves attention: the assumption of the opposition that they know the hearts and minds of us and we of them. With the speed that social media now accelerates these often-fictitious statements, the truth about the actions of opposing entities has become more and more difficult to uncover.

In the three and a half years since President Donald Trump won election to that office, Democrats have been accused of hating the president because they lost the election and are thus blamed for relentless false attempts to remove him from office. One can almost see how the activities of the past three-plus years have been perceived by Trump followers in that light, but a look at some facts tells a different tale.

As one of many who have lived through and observed the demeanor and actions of presidents since FDR, the characteristics seen in this president have been troubling from day one and before, as compared with those of a widely diverse (except in gender) group of presidents.

Yes, there have been philanderers, some known, some protected by those around them in the earlier days of "fake news." Yes, some were more mentally agile than others, able to convey empathy and challenge in ways that made the electorate feel heard and safe, if not totally happy with all of it. Some, like President Dwight Eisenhower, inspired confidence with their experience and natural modesty, while others like Presidents Kennedy, Clinton and Obama, had innate gifts evident and needed when they spoke to us in times of distress and threat. President George H.W. Bush was well prepared to lead through thick and thin in spite of minor blunders. That could be said for each of them: they were human and made errors in judgment, but they led in such a way that any attempts to remove them from office were slight or non-existent.

Honest reflection on President Trump's behavior and leadership puts him in another category. His well-known record of using and abusing women over his lifetime is troubling in a world that has awakened from that kind of behavior – the president usually being the symbol of dignified manhood, to be admired and imitated. The release of at least some of his tax returns was a campaign promise never to be fulfilled with the obvious conclusion that there is something which, if revealed, would cause re-election problems. Appointing unskilled millionaire cronies to ambassadorships, cabinet and other positions of high importance is not unusual, but it has been so frequent in this administration that it has visibly weakened the American position world-wide. His ongoing record from the first year, of firing cabinet members and others because they don't follow his lead, and condemning, even punishing them openly is painful to see. It is beyond discouraging to see members of the National Security Council, judges, seasoned ambassadors and others not just publicly humiliated, but removed from years of exceptional public service, labeled as nasty or incompetent while less principled individuals are granted the Medal of Freedom. Speaking publicly with made-up "facts" such as those surrounding the coronavirus pandemic in order to calm the people rather than facing up to the seriousness does not inspire confidence. Attacking and correcting statistics of the World Health Organization, the Central Intelligence Agency, the scientific community and many other reliable sources of safety and security is more than troubling. Most notably his cancellation two years ago of the pandemic response team initiated by President Barack Obama is now revealing life and death consequences.

At this writing the nation's governors and mayors are taking the preemptive actions needed to moderate the impact of COVID-19. Well-outlined steps for immediate action should have prompted the first response, had that team of experts not been abandoned two years ago. Rather, we have heard denial followed by promises that everything is working beautifully, and necessary supplies are on the way. Meanwhile people were and are sickening, testing was and is inadequate, and needed medical supplies, personnel and space are still in critically short supply. Each day brings new awareness of the yet-to-be realized trauma in spite of promises that all is in good hands across the nation.

Hatred? No, just deep disillusionment, mistrust and sorrow based on years of experience.

Melinda Stibal lives in Coloma. Her email address is: 2mstibals@comcast.net

America needs a formula for reopening

Ben Shapiro

This week, President Donald Trump began openly considering at what point the American government ought to take steps to reopen the American economy. He explained: "Our country wasn't built to be shut down. America will again and soon be open for business," suggesting that the timeline will be weeks instead of months. "If it were up to the doctors," Trump said, "they'd say, 'Let's shut down the entire world.' This could create a much bigger problem than the problem that you started with." Later, Trump optimistically proclaimed that he "would love to have the country opened up and just raring to go by Easter."

Trump's projections drew fire – as do all of his statements. These statements, however, caused inordinate faux heartburn among commentators, who shouted that Trump was weighing dollars against lives and deciding in favor of dollars. The hashtag #NotDyingForWallStreet began trending on Twitter, followed by the hashtag #DieForTheDow. New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo tweeted: "My mother is not expendable. Your mother is not expendable. We will not put a dollar figure on human life. ... No one should be talking about social darwinism for the sake of the stock market." Presumptive 2020 Democratic nominee Joe Biden said, "I don't agree with the notion that somehow it's OK ... to let people die."

That, of course, was not Trump's suggestion. Trump was merely pointing out – quite correctly – that since the federal government has now taken the unprecedented and justifiable action of completely shutting down the American economy, to the tune of millions of lost jobs and the greatest quarterly economic decline in recorded history, we must also have a plan to end this situation.

The economy cannot remain shuttered indefinitely; the federal government cannot engage in endless cash expenditures on the basis of treasuries nobody is buying. Nor is the economy merely Wall Street. The vast majority of those who will lose their jobs are not day traders but workers. Small companies are more likely to go under than large ones. The economy isn't an abstraction. It's the real lives of hundreds of millions of American citizens, and costs to those Americans must be weighed in the balance.

That's not controversial. That's a simple fact. Public policy is the craft of weighing risks and rewards, and policymakers do it every day. It's just that this time, the stakes are the highest they have ever been.

So, when do we reopen, and how?

The biggest problem is that we lack the data to answer the question. How many lives will be lost if we take heavy social measures after how many weeks? Moderate social measures? What will be the concomitant economic gain or loss? How many additional ICU beds and ventilators will we need to make available in order to clear the flattened curve such that we do not experience excess deaths due to lack of equipment, a la Italy? Our goal should be to move from the Chinese model – total lockdown – to the South Korean model – heavy testing, contact investigations and social distancing. In order to accomplish that, we need to flatten the curve and stop the spread, allowing us to reset. How long will that take?

We're not going to have answers until some time passes – until we test more, until the outcomes of cases are made certain. But we can certainly construct the formulas that should allow us to calculate possible outcomes as new data comes in, and that should allow us to collectively commit to actions directed at certain outcomes. We require a formula from the government. That's the transparency the markets need, that the American people need. And that, at least, should be attainable over the next two weeks.

Ben Shapiro is editor-in-chief of DailyWire.com.

LETTERS

Andrews needs to review decision to hold concert

Editor,

On March 8, Andrews University decided to go ahead with a public concert, followed by a meet-and-greet social hour with the soloist. It turns out the soloist had coronavirus and now several people who attended are sick.

By March 8 everybody except Fox News was warning that there should be no large public gatherings. By willfully bringing coronavirus to Berrien County, Andrews University has made many people's lives significantly more risky and complicated. What was once a secure community with zero confirmed cases is now compromised.

I hope the values of the university lead to a full investigation of who approved this concert, a public explanation and apology, and restitution to the lives disrupted (and hopefully not lost) because of the decision to prioritize concert revenue over public health.

Garth Taylor Harbert

Rebutting letters from a pair of GOP supporters

Editor,

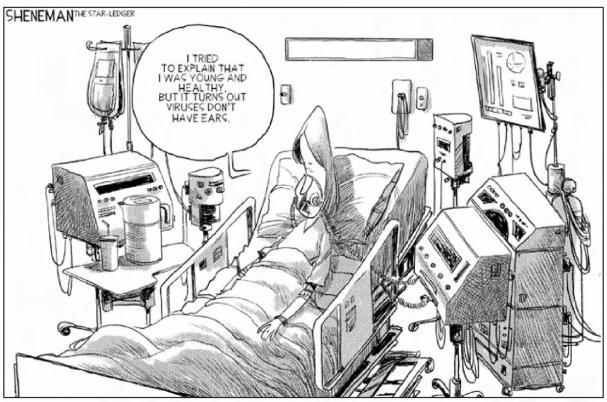
I am responding to the March 20 letters written by Douglas De Leo from Bangor ("Democrats are delusional; vote for Republicans") and Fred Canfield from Buchanan ("Trump will win in a landslide in November").

First, I am not sure to which "oddball news shows" that Mr. De Leo refers. I get my news from a variety of news programming, including ABC, NBC, CBS, Fox, CNN, PBS and others, as I believe we all should do. Watch the news shows and discern for yourself.

Second, Mr. De Leo referred to Congress as not doing its job. In response, I say that Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell has admitted to sitting on 395 bills from the House. Why doesn't he do his job and send these bills to the Senate?

Fred Canfield stated that President Trump "got more done than any other president in history." I would like to remind Mr. Canfield of just three presidents working during crises from our history: President George Washington, President Abraham Lincoln and President Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

Libby Sinn Globensky St. Joseph



Write us

Here's how to submit a letter to the editor:

Email: letters@TheHP.com

Regular mail: Editorial Page, The Herald-Palladium, P.O. Box 128, St. Joseph, MI 49085

All letters should include a daytime telephone number and street address for verification. Letters must be 500 words or fewer.

What will a post-virus U.S. look like?

Jonah Goldberg

The social and political response to major catastrophes often proceeds in stages. Stage 1 is denial. Thankfully, this stage is largely over for the coronavirus crisis. Not counting a few poltroons and conspiracy theorists, nobody is saying it's all hype or no big deal.

Now we're transitioning, in fits and starts, from Stage 2 to Stage 3. Politicians and policymakers are taking the threat seriously, but lacking contingency plans and the mental bandwidth to deal with all of the challenges that are arising, they've been falling back on what they already believe to be true. Stage 2 is the "COVID-19 confirms my priors" period.

For many Democrats, the roaring economy of eight weeks ago was the perfect time to push for canceling student debt, establishing a $15-per-hour minimum wage, implementing "Medicare for All," etc. A runaway pandemic and the start of a massive shutdown of the economy only made it more obvious that these "priors" were absolutely necessary.

For many Republicans, the booming economy was the perfect time to push for tax cuts, immigration restrictions (including a border wall), a new cold war orientation toward China and a declaration of war on the media for being mean to the president. And lo and behold, as the coronavirus crisis shaped up, they too believed their ideas were all the more justified.

Just because these policies are priors doesn't mean they are necessarily ill-suited to the moment. For instance, canceling some student debt makes more sense now than before, and a major rethinking of our economic entanglement with China seems acutely overdue. But this has more to do with serendipity than critical thinking.

Sometimes we get stuck in Stage 2. Shortly after 9/11, Sen. Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., bowed to Democratic form when he wrote an op-ed for the Washington Post arguing that the "era of a shrinking federal government is over." (He called, familiarly, for a "new New Deal.") George W. Bush, who ran for president arguing for a "humble" foreign policy, reverted to the conservative foreign policy establishment's preference for regime change and nation-building, at least in part because it was the only fleshed-out program available. Both priors prevailed, not to our particular benefit.

This isn't to say that both sides don't try their best to deal with emergencies. But just as the stockpile of masks and ventilators is not adequate for the sudden demand, the same holds for the storehouse of policies we could put into effect right now. Or, to be more fair to the wonks who warned about some of these problems, there's a lag time in getting new and better policies into production.

What Stage 3 of the coronavirus crisis will look like remains murky. Andrew Yang's quest for universal cash payments to Americans seemed quixotic just weeks ago. Now it looks like the bedrock of a new policy agenda. The traditional Republican resistance to interference in corporate decision-making is being worn away by the hour, and once swept aside it seems unlikely to return in nearly as robust form. A new consensus may be quickly forming that government should have a much bigger say in how supply chains are structured, regardless of the corporate bottom line. It's almost certain that the U.S. pharmaceutical industry's dependence on China for basic medicinal ingredients will not survive this pandemic.

Other responses are still in the early stages, and big questions will need to be addressed, from how we should deploy the Defense Production Act to how to reconcile our federalist structure with public health crises.

Perhaps oddly, I find myself wondering – and worrying – about Stage 4. How will things look when this is all over? What will be the new normal? Will the handshake ever return? What emergency measures now will be our everyday reality years from now?

Tax withholding was invented to collect revenue during World War II. The imperial presidency, with its vast retinue of executive branch officials answerable directly to the presidency, was created to give Franklin D. Roosevelt more power to fight the Great Depression.

This pandemic will no doubt have a similarly long tail. The foundation of the property laws of Anglosphere nations was a response to the crisis of the Plague. (Historian Norman Cantor writes: "A barrister of 1350 deep frozen and thawed out today would need only a six-month refresher course at a first-rate American law school to practice property or real estate law today.")

One of my priors is the idea that our political parties are overdue for a major transformation. The coalitions that constitute them are unstable and combustible. The ideas that once bound them together are frayed. This crisis will put even more strain on these already feeble institutions, as politicians are dragged out of their comfort zones. It's too soon to tell if this assessment will be confirmed, but I'd take bets that after this is all over, political scientists, like so many others, will be writing about B.C. and A.C. – before coronavirus and after.

Jonah Goldberg is an editor-at-large of National Review Online. Email: JonahsColumn@aol.com.

Baby on board as police give chase

Portage man arrested in Benton Twp. after on-again, off-again chase

By JULIE SWIDWA
HP Staff Writer

ST. JOSEPH — A child is back safe with her mother and a man is in the Berrien County jail after he sped through three counties Wednesday with the child in the car, unrestrained.

According to the Berrien County Sheriff's Office, Willitte Jones, 30, of Portage, was arrested on charges of child endangerment, reckless driving, carrying a concealed weapon and being a felon in possession of a firearm.

The incident began in Portage, Mich., and ended at the intersection of Vincent and Butternut streets in Benton Township. Police agencies involved included the Berrien County Sheriff's Department, Benton Township Police, St. Joseph Department of Public Safety, Portage police, the Van Buren County Sheriff's Department, state police and Medic 1 ambulance.

Berrien County 911 dispatch was notified at 2 a.m. Wednesday that Van Buren County sheriff's officers were following a vehicle on I-94, heading into Berrien County. Police were alerted that the driver was a suspect in a domestic violence incident in Portage and that his 1-year-old daughter was in the vehicle, not buckled up. The man was possibly intoxicated and possibly armed with a handgun, police said. He left Van Buren County at speeds reaching 110 mph, according to police. He had reportedly fled Portage police before leading Van Buren officers in pursuit.

According to the Berrien County Sheriff's Office, deputies there chose not to chase the vehicle out of caution for the child. The vehicle entered Berrien County and was seen traveling toward Benton Harbor at a high rate of speed. Deputies learned the driver had family and a former address in the Benton Harbor area.

According to a news release, deputies followed from a long distance without lights and sirens, and briefly lost sight of the vehicle, which was then spotted on M-139 at Pipestone Avenue by the Michigan State Police. The vehicle was followed and initially was traveling slowly. It then sped up, turned off its lights and was lost again in the city of Benton Harbor.

At 2:48 a.m. citizens from the 900 block of Jennings in Benton Harbor reported a crash in which a vehicle had flipped and was on its roof. Police rushed to the scene and found it was not the vehicle they were looking for with the suspect and baby. The driver had mild injuries, appeared to be intoxicated, and was taken by Medic 1 to Lakeland Medical Center, St. Joseph. On the way to the hospital, ambulance personnel spotted the original suspect vehicle, which police say was traveling with no headlights on, ran a stop sign and nearly collided with the ambulance.

The vehicle was lost again, but was spotted at Pipestone Road and Britain Avenue, continuing to drive with headlights off, police said. Dust and smoke were seen near the intersection of Main Street and Butternut, and the suspect vehicle was found in a yard with a blown out tire. There was no one in the vehicle, according to police.

A tracking dog from the Berrien County Sheriff's Office tracked the suspect, who was located in the 1200 block of Vincent Court hiding behind a shed, police said. The K-9, Blek, apprehended the man by biting him in the arm. He was taken into custody and the baby was found unharmed. A handgun was found in the suspect's pant leg, police said.

The man was taken to Lakeland where he was treated for the K-9 bite. The 1-year-old was also taken to Lakeland, checked by staff, then was reunited with her mother, police said.

Contact: jswidwa@TheHP.com, 932-0359, twitter@hpswidwa

They already had an anxiety disorder. Now a pandemic comes

By MALCOLM RITTER
AP Science Writer

NEW YORK — At first, Jonathon Seidl wasn't worried about the coronavirus despite his anxiety disorder. But that changed.

The 33-year-old digital media strategist from Dallas, who takes medication, said his concern was less about getting sick than about the battering the economy could sustain. Would he be able to feed his family? Would there be a run on food stores? He could not shake his worries.

So he paced. His heart raced. He wanted to go to bed early "because sleep was the only respite." But his sleep was rarely restful. "I would wake up during the night," he said.

The pandemic is worrisome enough for most people. For those with anxiety disorders, it presents a special challenge, especially if they are not receiving treatment.

That's the case for about two-thirds of people with anxiety disorders, says Dr. Bruce Schwartz, president of the American Psychiatric Association. "Those are the ones I'm worried about," he said.

Schwartz, who maintains a practice in New York, said those who are in treatment "do pretty well" in the face of the pandemic.

Still, some psychologists say the have noticed an uptick in symptoms with the spread of the virus. And for some anxiety conditions, the recommendations from health officials can appear to feed the problem. People who fear interacting with others now hear advice to avoid crowds. People with obsessive-compulsive disorder who fear germs so much they wash their hands excessively now hear public health authorities encouraging frequent hand-washing.

Standard treatments can deal with coronavirus fears in people who already had anxiety troubles, helping them to avoid emotional extremes, psychologists say. The goal is accepting an appropriate level of anxiety and living with some uncertainty.

"You don't have to like that any of this is happening to accept that this is our reality right now," said Vaile Wright, director of clinical research and quality at the American Psychological Association. People can focus on what's under their control, she said, like how to work from home or manage the kids with schools closed.

Mary Alvord, a psychologist in Rockville, Maryland, said she sees increased anxiety in people whose fear of picking up germs drives them to rituals to ease that fear. Public health messages about cleaning surfaces and washing hands can make some patients think "we were right all along," Alvord said.

So "we have to really deal with reality checks," she said. People with an anxiety disorder tend to focus on "what-if" ideas and worst-case scenarios more than what is going on in the present, she said. "That's what we're trying to get under control."

It's tricky to get people with obsessive-compulsive behavior to focus on taking reasonable precautions without fueling their condition, said Neda Gould, associate director of an anxiety clinic at the Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center in Baltimore. A mental health provider can help them set goals and limits, she said, while techniques for relaxation and meditation can help "turn off that heightened anxiety or stress response ... or at least to turn it down."

Somebody with obsessive-compulsive disorder might be encouraged to touch some surface they fear is contaminated, and then not wash their hands for 20 minutes, and even then for only the recommended 20 seconds rather than five minutes with scalding-hot water, Wright said.

For people apprehensive about dealing with others, the public health advice about avoiding groups also makes therapy challenging, Gould said. The key thing is to stay connected to other people, and that can be done by social media, email, video conferencing or phone calls, she said.

Alvord, in fact, said she avoids the term "social distancing" and instead talks about "physical distancing and social connectedness." That allows for connecting online, she said.

It can be hard for anxiety-prone people to reach out when they feel overwhelmed, Wright said, so other people should put in the effort to contact them, just to ask how they're doing. "There's nothing wrong in talking about the virus in a productive way," encouraging people to take care of themselves physically and emotionally without inducing panic and destructive riffs of "what-if," she said.

And it's OK to contact friends and family "and talk not at all about the virus right now," she said. "We need that too. We need a balance."

OBITUARIES

Richard H. 'Papa Joe' Joseph

June 10, 1926 – March 24, 2020

Richard H. "Papa Joe" Joseph, 93, of Benton Harbor passed away at his home on Tuesday, March 24, 2020.

A memorial graveside service will be held at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to Caring Circle or American Legion Post 105. Those wishing to leave an online condolence may do so at www.starks-menchinger.com.

Richard was born on June 10, 1926, to Edward and Hortense (Vinez) Joseph, in Cuyahoga, Ohio. He joined the U.S. Navy on Oct. 19, 1943, and proudly served his country as an aviation machinist for three years before being honorably discharged in June of 1946. After the service, Richard went to work for Railway Express as a railway machinist for over 16 years and was transferred to Benton Harbor in 1948. When Railway Express went out of business, he then worked as a lieutenant for Benton Township Fire Department for more than 20 years before his retirement in 1980. Richard then moved to Florida, where he and his best friend, Dave Brady, formed a close bond and had a business building carports and screen rooms. Due to declining health, Richard moved back home to Benton Harbor in 2012. On his 90th birthday, he earned his high school diploma from Benton Harbor High School and walked with the class of 2017. Richard was a proud member of American Legion post 105.

Richard leaves to cherish his memory, his wife of 44 years, Barbara Joseph of Benton Harbor; children: Edwin Joseph of Benton Harbor, Linda (Steve) Knuth of Benton Harbor, June Heyn of Grand Rapids, Beverly Kotyuk of Grand Rapids, Rebecca Reeves of Watervliet, Elizabeth (Edward) Joseph-Mohr of California, Thomas (Kelly) Joseph of Benton Harbor and Jeffrey (Bonnie) Joseph of Coloma; 16 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Papa Joe had many close friends, especially Dave and Debby Brady, Siegfried and Linda Frietag and David and Linda Arndt; his wonderful and caring sister and brother-in-law, Robert and Deborah Appelget; two loving nephews, Joe and Dan Appelget; and many more nieces and nephews.

Richard was preceded in death by his parents, Edward and Hortense Joseph; and two brothers.

Paul R. Pflugradt

Aug. 30, 1939 – March 23, 2020

Paul's life began Aug. 30, 1939, in Coloma. He was a lifetime area resident, leaving only for the time he spent proudly serving his county in the United States Marine Corp. When Paul returned home, he worked for the Watervliet Paper Mill. When the mill closed, Paul drove truck and then went to work for Coca-Cola, where he retired. When he wasn't working you could find Paul watching sports or catching up with the world news on FOX.

Paul leaves behind a loving family to cherish his memory, which includes: two sons, Paul Pflugradt Jr. and Michael (Lisa) Pflugradt; two grandchildren, AO1 William (Malyssa) Pflugradt and Alexis Pflugradt; a brother, Frank "Butch" (Mary Beth) Pflugradt; and many nieces and nephews.

Paul died Monday, March 23, 2020. He is preceded in death by two children, David Pflugradt and Sally Pflugradt; his parents, Frank and Mary Francis (Pitcher) Pflugradt; and two sisters, Paulette Edinborough and Frieda Schultz.

Hutchins Funeral Home in Watervliet is assisting Paul's family with cremation. They will celebrate his life at a later date. You are invited to leave a message of comfort for Paul's family at hutchinsfuneral.com.

Death notices

Carol Ireland, 93, formerly of Berrien Springs died March 20, 2020, in Lawrenceville, Ga. Allred Funeral Home, Berrien Springs, 471-3729.

Richard H. "Papa Joe" Joseph, 93, of Benton Harbor died March 24, 2020, at home. Starks & Menchinger Chapel and Cremation Services, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

Charles D. Satkey, 66, of Bangor, formerly of South Haven died March 24, 2020, at home. Bangor Chapel, D. L. Miller Funeral Home, 427-7551.

Bettye I. Turnbo, 54, of Niles died March 23, 2020, at Hanson Hospice Center, Stevensville. Brown Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Niles, 683-1155.

Charles D. Satkey

Aug. 26, 1953 – March 24, 2020

Charles D. Satkey, 66, of Bangor passed away Tuesday, March 24, 2020, at his home.

Charles was born Aug. 26, 1953, in South Haven, the son of Charles E. and June M. (Haines) Satkey, and had lived in the Bangor area for the past five years, formerly of South Haven. He was a member of the United Turkey Federation and loved to hunt, fish and drink beer. In 2019 he retired from Getman Corporation after working there 34 years as a welder.

Surviving are his wife, Sonda (Sprague), whom he married Dec. 31, 2000; stepchildren, Michael (Corrine) June and Matthew (Kyra) Schultz; two stepgrandchildren; brother, John (Eleanor) Satkey of South Haven; sister, Wanda Blackbear of South Haven; many nieces, nephews and cousins; and his dog, Chip.

He was preceded in death by his parents and brother, Douglas Anthony Satkey.

According to his wishes, cremation has taken place and a family memorial service will take place at a later time. Arrangements are entrusted to the Bangor Chapel, D. L. Miller Funeral Home.

Lee Harris

Sept. 3, 1932 – March 23, 2020

Lee's life began Sept. 3, 1932, in Caulfield, Mo. He spent his youth in the South. Lee married the love of his life, Freda Hutchison, on Oct. 1, 1949, in Leachville, Ark. Shortly after marrying, Lee and Freda moved to Michigan, making Watervliet their home. Lee worked for over 40 years as a coater operator at the Watervliet Paper Mill, where he also served as the union steward. Outside of work, Lee enjoyed the outdoors and was an avid hunter and fisherman. He would travel out West to hunt elk and head north to Canada for moose hunting. He also could enjoy the outdoors from the sky, as he had a private pilot's license. Lee was a longtime member of Midway Baptist Church.

Lee's greatest joy was his family, which includes: his loving wife, Freda; a son, Dannie (Sherri) Harris; a daughter, Lori Cramer; five grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; numerous nieces and nephews; and his dog, Shadow.

Lee died Monday, March 23, 2020. His parents, George and Maude (Bowen) Harris, and 12 siblings precede Lee in death.

Hutchins Funeral Home in Watervliet is assisting Lee's family with cremation. His family will celebrate his life at a later date at Midway Baptist Church in Watervliet. You are invited to leave a message of comfort for Lee's family at hutchinsfuneral.com.

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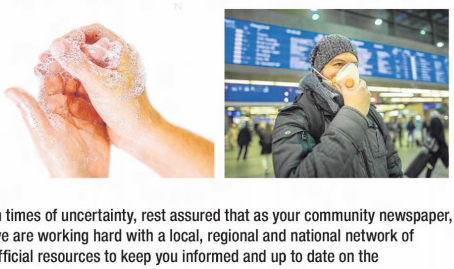
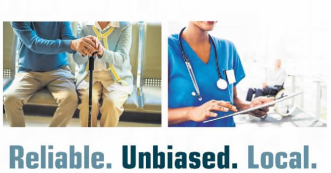


In times of uncertainty, rest assured that as your community newspaper, we are working hard with a local, regional and national network of official resources to keep you informed and up to date on the issues and developments that matter most to you.



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DO YOU REMEMBER?

25 years ago - 1995

After a search that lasted more than six years, congregations at Church of the Mediator in Lakeside and St. Augustine in Benton Harbor are now shepherded by the Rev. Barbara Wilson-Youngchild, who took over in November.

Aside from getting lost in Southwest Berrien County several times, Wilson-Youngchild feels good about her first months on the job. "All in all, it's been very busy, and I am enjoying being here immensely," she said.

35 years ago - 1985

LECO Corp. and the City of St. Joseph have tentatively agreed to trade properties in the Silver Beach area, creating a six-acre public park at the south end of the beach. The City Commission unanimously approved a resolution stating that the city would trade Broad Street, from Lake Street to Lake Michigan, amounting to 1.5 acres, to LECO in exchange for the six acres of beach property.

50 years ago - 1970

A simple device that could revolutionize the asparagus production industry in Michigan won the Agricultural Development of the Year award from the Michigan Week committee for James Thar, a Decatur farmer.

The device, a sledbox harvester, can be built for $25 worth of materials and harvests asparagus for one cent a pound compared to 6-10 cents for hand harvesting. It outperformed sophisticated mechanical harvesters costing as much as $10,000 in side-by-side tests.

TODAY IN HISTORY

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Thursday, March 26, the 86th day of 2020. There are 280 days left in the year.

Highlight in history:

On March 26, 1945, during World War II, Iwo Jima was fully secured by U.S. forces following a final, desperate attack by Japanese soldiers.

On this date:

In 1812, an earthquake devastated Caracas, Venezuela, causing an estimated 26,000 deaths, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

In 1827, composer Ludwig van Beethoven died in Vienna.

In 1911, American playwright Tennessee Williams ("The Glass Menagerie," "A Streetcar Named Desire," "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof") was born in Columbus, Miss.

In 1962, the U.S. Supreme Court, in Baker v. Carr, gave federal courts the power to order reapportionment of states' legislative districts.

In 1964, the musical play "Funny Girl," starring Barbra Streisand as Fanny Brice, opened on Broadway.

In 1979, a peace treaty was signed by Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin and Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and witnessed by President Jimmy Carter at the White House.

In 1997, the bodies of 39 members of the Heaven's Gate techno-religious cult who committed suicide were found inside a rented mansion in Rancho Santa Fe, California.

5-Day Forecast for St. Joseph

Today	Tonight	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Scattered Rain	Scattered Rain	Scattered Rain	Showers Likely	Scattered Rain	Partly Cloudy
46°	40°	50° / 44°	53° / 47°	49° / 38°	44° / 40°

Local Outlook

Today we will see cloudy skies with a 50% chance of scattered rain, high temperature of 46°, humidity of 80%. Southwest wind 10 to 16 mph. Expect cloudy skies tonight with a 65% chance of scattered rain, overnight low of 40°. North northeast wind 6 to 10 mph.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise ..... 7:37 a.m.
Sunset ..... 8:05 p.m.
Moonrise ..... 8:59 a.m.
Moonset ..... 10:22 p.m.

First	Full	Last	New
4/1	4/7	4/14	4/22

Local Almanac

Benton Harbor Yesterday

Temperature

High ..... 58°
Low ..... 32°
Normal High ..... 51°
Normal Low ..... 32°
Record High ..... 78° in 2007
Record Low ..... 19° in 2001

Precipitation

Yesterday ..... 0.00"
Month to date ..... 1.44"
Normal for month ..... 1.94"
Year to date ..... 6.36"
Normal Year to date ..... 5.11"

Air Quality

Yesterday 56
Main Offender ..... Particles

The higher the number, the greater the need for people with respiratory problems to reduce outside activity.

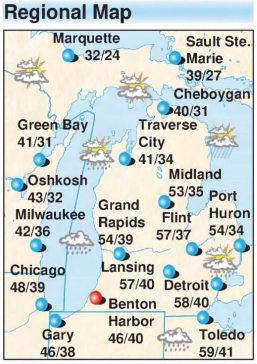
0-50 ..... Good
51-100 ..... Moderate
101-150 ..... Sensitive
151-200 .. Unhealthy

Weather Trivia

Do some people sneeze after they look into the sun?

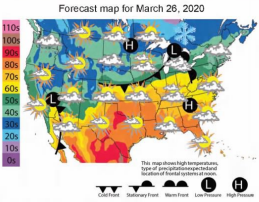
Answer: Yes, it is due to an allergic reaction of the lower eyelid.

Regional Map



National Weather Map

Forecast map for March 26, 2020



For latest weather updates: **www.UpdatedWx.com/HP**

Lake Michigan

Today, WSW wind 9 to 11 kt. A chance of showers. Waves 2 to 3 ft. Water temperature 36 degrees. Tonight, NE wind 8 to 11 kt. Showers likely. Waves 2 to 3 ft.

Michigan Forecast

Upper Peninsula

Today, skies will be mostly cloudy with isolated rain and showers, highs in the 30s and 40s. Northwest wind 6 to 11 mph. Expect partly cloudy skies Friday with highs in the 40s. East wind 6 mph.

Lower Peninsula

Today, skies will be cloudy with widespread rain, highs in the 40s and 50s. Southwest wind 10 to 16 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies Friday with widespread rain, highs in the 40s and 50s. Northeast wind 6 mph.

SHELTER

From page A1

staying home and have time for a pet to settle in.

"But the problem is we've had to change some of our protocol. For example, we normally do a home visit before finalizing an adoption. We're not doing those right now," Cooper said. "But if a potential adopter comes to us with strong recommendations or references, we'll connect them with a pet and finalize the adoption later."

She said potential adopters cannot go to the foster homes of pets.

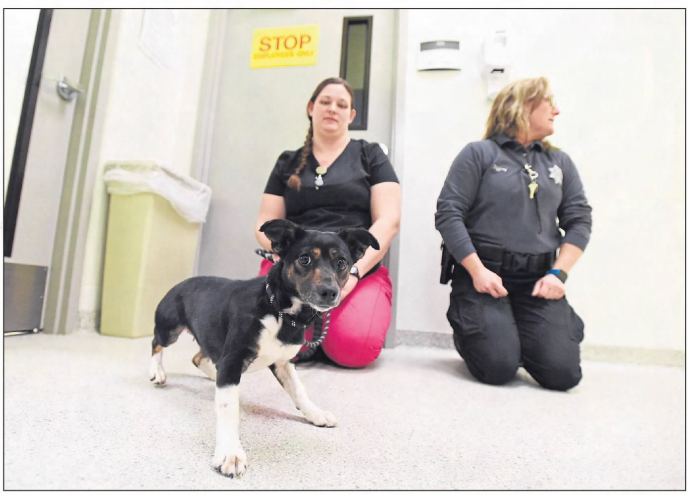
"It's a whole new world for us," she said. She said adoptable pets are posted on the organization's website and someone will arrange to meet a potential adopter at an agreed-upon location, and strict precautions will be taken to complete a transfer.

Cooper said the problem is that some services, such as a mobile spay/neuter bus that normally comes to town every two weeks is not currently available. And resources are scarce.

"Our major problem right now is funds. We were scheduled to have a St. Patrick's Day event, with the proceeds going to Animal Aid, and that was canceled," she said. "We have gotten a couple of donations, but we're in crisis mode. We're also taking supplies to our foster homes as much as we can."

To donate, or to find out more about pet adoption, visit www.animalaidswmi.org for animal aid, or the animal control tab on www.berriencounty.org for Berrien County Animal Control.

Contact: jswidwa@TheHP.com, 932-0359, twitter@hpswidwa



Don Campbell / HP staff

Kennel supervisor Ashley Herr, left, and Berrien County Animal Control Director Tiffany Peterson play with Teri, one of several animals available for adoption Wednesday at the Berrien County Animal Control shelter in Benton Township. The shelter is currently closed to the public due to COVID-19 and staff is working on ways to offer adoptions online. Donations at all area shelters are being welcomed.

FUND

From page A1

needing assistance with basic needs during this time can call 211 for referrals or visit www.help4her.org or www.uwsm.org/2-1-1.

Information is also available on the Southwest Michigan Cares website, the BCF website at www.berriencommunity.org or the UWSWM website at www.uwsm.org.

Opportunities for people to volunteer or give back will also be posted on the website, www.southwestmichigancares.org.

Contact: anewman@TheHP.com, 932-0357, Twitter: @HPA Newman

PLAN

From page A1

sturdy crate or carrier; familiar items for your pet such as treats, toys and bedding; pet litter and litter box, paper towels, plastic bags and household chlorine bleach; and a picture of you and your pet together to help document ownership in case of separation.

Contact: jswidwa@TheHP.com, 932-0359, twitter@hpswidwa

RESCUE

From page A1

Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont, whose campaign for the Democratic presidential nomination has flagged, said he would block the bill unless the conservatives dropped their objections.

"What I am saying is that two can play the same game," Sanders told The Associated Press. "This is most certainly not the bill that I or any other progressive would have written," he said, but added that he supports it in the main, given the severity of the crisis.

Other objections floated in from New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo, who has become a prominent Democrat on the national scene as the country battles the pandemic. Cuomo, whose state has seen more deaths from the pandemic than any other, said: "I'm telling you, these numbers don't work."

Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden said the package "goes a long way." He said it will require strong oversight to ensure the wealthy don't benefit at the expense of workers and proposed forgiving at least $10,000 of student loan debt as part of the federal response.

McConnell and Schumer hoped passage of the legislation in the Republican-led Senate would come by the end of the day. Stocks posted their first back-to-back gains in weeks as the package took shape over the last two days, but much of Wednesday's early rally faded as the hitch developed in the Senate. The market is down nearly 27 percent since setting a record high a month ago.

Senate passage would leave final congressional approval up to the Democratic-controlled House.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., swung behind the bipartisan agreement, saying it "takes us a long way down the road in meeting the needs of the American people."

House members are scattered around the country and the timetable for votes in that chamber is unclear.

House Democratic and Republican leaders have hoped to clear the measure for Trump's signature by a voice vote without having to call lawmakers back to Washington. But that may prove challenging, as the bill is sure to be opposed by some conservatives upset at its cost and scope. Ardent liberals were restless as well.

Evan Vucci / AP

Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, adjusts the microphone to speak during a news conference on the coronavirus with President Donald Trump in the Rose Garden at the White House in Washington.

White House aide Eric Ueland announced the agreement in a Capitol hallway Wednesday, shortly after midnight, capping days of often intense haggling and mounting pressure. The wording of some final pieces of the agreement need to be completed.

The sprawling, 500-page-plus measure is the third coronavirus response bill produced by Congress and by far the largest. It builds on efforts focused on vaccines and emergency response, sick and family medical leave for workers, and food aid. It's unlikely to be the last aid bill, lawmakers say.

The package would give direct payments to most Americans, expand unemployment benefits and provide a $367 billion program for small businesses to keep making payroll while workers are forced to stay home.

One of the last issues to close concerned $500 billion for guaranteed, subsidized loans to larger industries, including a fight over how generous to be with the airlines. Hospitals would get significant help as well.

McConnell, a key negotiator, said the package will "rush new resources onto the front lines of our nation's health care fight. And it will inject trillions of dollars of cash into the economy as fast as possible to help Americans workers, families, small businesses and industries make it through this disruption and emerge on the other side ready to soar."

Five days of arduous talks produced the bill, creating tensions among Congress' top leaders, who each took care to tend to party politics as they maneuvered and battled over crafting the legislation. But failure is not an option, nor is starting over, which permitted both sides to include their priorities.

"That Washington drama does not matter any more," McConnell said. "The Senate is going to stand together, act together, and pass this historic relief package today."

The bill would provide one-time direct payments to Americans of $1,200 per adult making up to $75,000 a year, and $2,400 to a married couple making up to $150,000, with $500 payments per child

A huge cash infusion for hospitals expecting a flood of COVID-19 patients grew during the talks at Schumer's insistence. Republicans pressed for tens of billions of dollars for additional relief to be delivered through the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the lead federal disaster agency.

Democrats said the package would help replace the salaries of furloughed workers for four months, rather than the three months first proposed. Furloughed workers would get whatever amount a state usually provides for unemployment, plus a $600 per week addon, with gig workers like Uber drivers covered for the first time.

Schumer said businesses controlled by members of Congress and top administration officials – including Trump and his immediate family members – would be ineligible for the bill's business assistance.

The New York Democrat immediately sent out a roster of negotiating wins for transit systems, hospital, and cash-hungry state governments that were cemented after Democrats blocked the measure in votes held Sunday and Monday to maneuver for such gains.